



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Welcome to the Legislative Update for January 29, 2016

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep older Arizonans and advocates of aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight federal legislation or activities affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

Note: to get the most from this report, be sure to open the [links](#) for the latest news and information.

52nd Legislature, 2nd Regular Session

More than 1,000 bills and 83 memorials or resolutions have been introduced so far this session. The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is tracking legislation that has the potential to impact older Arizonans. Those bills are featured in the following link. **FULL List** click [HERE](#).

Schedules

[House Weekly Schedule](#)

Senate 2016 Committee Schedule List [HERE](#)

Deadlines

Senate [2016 Session Timeline](#)

Monday, (1/25/2016) was the last day for House members to submit bill requests to the Legislative Council. Monday, (2/1/2016) is the last day for Senate bills to be introduced without special permission.

Members of the House of Representatives and Senate are listed on the Arizona State Legislature website at the following links.

Members of the [House](#)

Members of the [Senate](#)

[Standing Committees](#) - this link provides you with a list of the committee members and

information on any posted meeting agendas or minutes for that committee.

You can watch live proceedings at:

http://azleg.granicus.com/Mediaplayer.php?publish_id=5.

Arizona State Legislature **ALIS Today** calendar [HERE](#)

Summary of Action

As of day 19, 1,002 bills have been posted; none have passed or been signed; 83 memorials or resolutions have been posted; none have passed. Note: some of these bills may be of interest to older Arizonans and will be tracked by the Council on Aging and appear on the Legislative Update web report. Please be advised that the presence of a bill on a tracking list ***does not*** represent support or opposition by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. It ***does*** mean that the topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

FULL List click [HERE](#)

Note: the **FULL List** web report provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information on all of the bills being tracked by the Council and is available and updated on an ongoing basis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Be sure to click on the underlined bill number at Daily History for more information.

This list will continue to be edited and updated as we have an opportunity to get through the bills throughout the session. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*.

If you know of someone who would appreciate having this information, encourage them to subscribe to the *Legislative Update* by sending a request to gaca@az.gov.

Tracking List Highlights

(Note: full summaries provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*.)

HB2099: developmental disabilities; terminology; settings

1/26 from House Children and Family Affairs Committee with do pass.

Hearing scheduled in House Rules Committee on 2/1 at 1:00 p.m., House Room 4.

House Summary 1/25/2016 Caucus Committee of the Whole linked [HERE](#)

HB2461: lifespan respite care; program termination

The Lifespan Respite Care Program is for primary caregivers of individuals who do not currently receive other publicly funded respite services.

Hearing in the House Health Committee on 2/2 at 2:00 p.m., House Room 4.

HB2178: Arizona silver-haired legislature

1/28 from House Government and Higher Education with do pass.

Summary - Establishes the Arizona Silver Haired Legislature, a nonpartisan panel consisting of Arizona citizens who are at least 60 years of age and who are elected by their peers, to identify and discuss policy issues and annually submit its recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature. Appropriates \$60,000 from the general fund in FY2016-17 to the Arizona Silver Haired Legislature.

HB2179: critical health information; emergency responders

Hearing scheduled in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on 2/2 at 2:00 p.m., House Room 1.

Summary - Municipalities and counties are authorized to establish by ordinance a program to provide “emergency responders” (defined) with critical health information about program participants so that emergency responders may aid program participants who are involved in motor vehicle emergencies and accidents and who are unable to communicate. Program requirements are specified and program participants may be charged a nominal fee for program costs.

HB2238: insurance; identity theft group policies

Hearing in the House Rules Committee on 2/1 at 1:00 p.m., House Room 4.

Establishes parameters for Identify Theft Group Insurance Policies (ITGIP).

House Summary 1/28 Caucus Committee of the Whole linked [HERE](#)

HB2329: appropriation; veterans’ services; veterans’ home

1/28 held - House Military Affairs and Public Safety Committee

Hearing: House Military Affairs and Public Safety Committee on 2/4 at 9:00 a.m., House Room 5.

Summary - Appropriates \$10 million from the general fund in FY2016-17 to the Department of Veterans’ Services for distribution to the City of Flagstaff for construction of a veterans’ home in Flagstaff. 1/21 referred to the House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee

SB1375: telephone solicitations

1/28 referred to the Senate Commerce and Workforce Development Committee

Summary – For the purpose of statutes regulating telephone solicitations, the definition of “telephone solicitation” is modified to mean any voice communication that is to or from a person located in Arizona, instead of to a telephone number in Arizona. A seller or solicitor is prohibited from initiating an outbound telephone solicitation call to any telephone number on the national do-not-call registry, instead of an intrastate call to any telephone number in Arizona.

Fiscal News

The **Joint Legislative Budget Committee/JLBC** 1/26/2016 presentation to the Appropriations Committees is linked [HERE](#) . Agency budget presentations are included in the Senate Appropriations Committee meeting on 2/2 at 2:00 p.m. Link to agenda: <http://www.azleg.gov/agendas/02020109115.pdf>

Comment on the budget proposal

Additional regional public budget hearings are being held on Monday, February 1st at the Yuma City Hall Council Chambers at 10:00 a.m. and at the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors Hearing Room in Prescott at 2:30 p.m. See the Governor's Office press release for more information [HERE](#).

Share your thoughts!

If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 in Phoenix; 520-628-6580 in Tucson and in-state toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or
- **Legislators** from your area. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature** website and looking for: [How Do I Find or Contact my Legislators?](#)

Not sure about your congressional or legislative district? Maps can be found on the Arizona State Legislature website linked [here](#).

Other resources on the www.azleg.gov website -

Need to learn more about the legislative process? See [Arizona Bill](#) or [Bill to Law](#).
Find and review bill text [HERE](#).
Learn about the budget process [HERE](#).
Research the State Constitution [HERE](#).
Learn more at Frequently Asked Questions linked [HERE](#).

FEDERAL OVERVIEW

UPDATES

S.192

Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2015

No further action since last *Legislative Update* was issued.

H.R.22

Surface Transportation Reauthorization and Reform act of 2015

Introduced on 1/6/2015 by Representative Rodney Davis (IL-13)

House Report [HERE](#)

12/4/2015 Became Public Law No: 114-94.

H.R.3761

Seniors Deserve A Raise Act

Introduced on 10/16/2015 by Representative Alan Grayson (FL-9)

The bill requires cost-of-living increases in any benefit under title II (Old-Age, Survivor, or Disability Insurance) (OASDI) of the Social Security Act as well as military retirement and survivor benefits by any increase in the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly. In addition to any such increase, each such benefit shall be further increased by 2.9% on January 1, 2016, and shall remain in effect every year thereafter.

On 11/23/2015 referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

H.R.4121

Anti-hunger Empowerment Act of 2015

Introduced on 11/19/2015 by Representative Jose E. Serrano (NY-15)

To amend the Food and Nutrition act of 2008 to provide greater access to the supplemental nutrition assistance program by reducing duplicative and burdensome administrative requirements, authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to award grants to certain community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger groups for the purpose of establishing and implementing a Beyond the Soup Kitchen Pilot Program for certain socially and economically disadvantaged populations, and for other purposes.

On 12/18/2015 referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition.

S.1719

RAISE Family Caregivers Act

Introduced on 12/1/2015 by Senator Susan M. Collins (ME)

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to develop, maintain, and periodically update a National Family Caregiving Strategy. HHS shall convene a Family Caregiving Advisory Council to advise it on recognizing and supporting family caregivers. Federal departments and agencies must share with HHS any data they maintain that HHS needs to prepare the initial and updated Strategies.

On 12/9/15 referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Related bills: H.R.3099

Other legislation

S.524

Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2015

Introduced on 2/12/2015 by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (RI)

Directs the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to convene a Pain Management Best Practices Inter-Agency Task Force to develop: (1) best practices for pain management and prescribing pain medication, and (2) a strategy for disseminating such best practices. Amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize the Attorney General to make grants

On 1/27/2016 - Committee on the Judiciary; hearings held.

S.607

Rural Community Hospital Demonstration Extension Act of 2015

Introduced on 2/27/2015 by Senator Chuck Grassley (IA)

This bill amends the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, as amended by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, to extend the period of the Medicare rural community hospital demonstration program from 5 to 10 years.

Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to allow rural community hospitals participating in the demonstration program as of December 30, 2014, to continue during the second five years of the 10-year extension period

On 1/25/2016 referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

S.2403

Military Family Stability Act of 2015

Introduced on 12/15/2015 by Senator Roy Blunt (MO)

This bill allows a member of the Armed Forces undergoing a permanent change of station and the member's spouse to elect jointly that the spouse may relocate to the new location at the time during the covered relocation period as the member and spouse jointly select.

The following families shall be eligible:

- the spouse is employed, or enrolled in a degree-, certificate-, or license-granting program, at the beginning of the covered relocation period;
- the member and spouse have one or more children in school;
- the spouse or children are covered under the Exceptional Family Member Program;
- the member and spouse are caring for an immediate family member with a chronic or long-term illness; or
- the member is undergoing a permanent change of station as an individual augmentee or other deployment arrangement.

Families with other needs may receive exceptions granted by military commanders on a case-by-case basis.

A member undergoing a permanent change of station who has one or more specified dependents and is no longer married to the individual who is or was the parent of such dependents at the beginning of the covered period of relocation may elect that such dependents relocate to the new location as follows:

- by the member alone if the former spouse is dead or has no custodial rights, or
- by the member and the former spouse jointly in all other circumstances.

A member may not make:

- more than three elections; or
- any election unless the member's period of obligated service, or the time remaining under the member's enlistment contract, at the time of election is at least 24 months.

The bill prescribes related housing and housing allowance requirements.

Transportation allowances authorized for personal property of a member and spouse may be allocated as the member and spouse select.

The Department of Defense shall establish a single application approval process for coverage under this Act which shall apply uniformly among the Armed Forces.

On 12/15/2015 read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

S.2427

Disability Integration Act of 2015

Introduced on 12/18/2015 by Senate Charles E. Schumer (NY)

To prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

Text [HERE](#)

On 12/18/2015 read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

H.R.3700

Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2015

Introduced on 10/7/2015 by Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO-3)

To provide housing opportunities in the United States through modernization of various housing programs, and for other purposes.

This bill amends the United States Housing Act of 1937 to:

- authorize a public housing agency (PHA) to make section 8 low-income rental assistance (voucher) payments to a dwelling unit after an inspection reveals non-life-threatening conditions, but suspend the payments after 30 days if the conditions are not corrected; and
- prescribe further requirements for enforcement of housing quality standards.

The bill also revises requirements to vary the frequency of otherwise annual reviews of family income for public housing and section 8 programs, depending on certain decreases or increases in annual adjusted income.

Text [HERE](#)

On 1/28/2016 placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 300.

H.R.4362

State Health Flexibility Act of 2016

Introduced on 1/11/2016 by Representative Todd Rokita (IN-4)

To amend Social Security Act to replace the Medicaid program and the Children's Health Insurance program with a block grant to the States, and for other purposes.

Text [HERE](#)

On 1/11/2016 referred to House Appropriations.

Share your opinions with members of Congress!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your Representatives or Senators by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**.

Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

You can contact the **White House** at this [link](#).

ALSO: A compilation of contact information is provided at:
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

NEWS& RESOURCES

From **Kaiser Health News**

[Rising Obesity Puts Strain on Nursing Homes](#)

[Baby Boomers Set Another Trend: More Golden Years in Poorer Health](#)

KHN's Aging coverage at: <http://khn.org/topics/aging/>

From the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities/NASUAD

Friday Updates, January 29, 2016

CDC Releases New Elder Abuse Publication

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in collaboration with a group of elder abuse experts, released a new publication, Elder Abuse Surveillance: Uniform Definitions and Recommended Core Data Elements. There is no consistent definition of elder abuse or neglect, which makes comparing data from different states and regions very challenging. This paper serves to establish consistent definitions and data elements to make comparing data easier.

The recommendations were created with regard to ACL's [National Adult Maltreatment](#)

[Reporting System](#) (NAMRS).

[Click here](#) to view the publication.

Guiding Principles for Sustainability of Age-Friendly Communities Highlights NCI-AD

Grantmakers In Aging (GIA) brought together national and international leaders in the age-friendly movement to explore a variety of issues related to the sustainability of age-friendly communities. In *Guiding Principles for Sustainability of Age-Friendly Communities*, a framework with five core principles describes strategies and tools useful in this endeavor. The core sustainability principles are 1) building public will; 2) engaging across sectors; 3) utilizing metrics; 4) securing resources; and 5) advancing age-friendly public policies, practice and funding. The [National Core Indicators-Aging and Disabilities](#) tool is highlighted as one way that state and local programs can measure the performance of age-friendly work in order to provide meaningful metrics to demonstrate the need for and impact of age-friendly programs.

[Click here](#) to access the full report.

(Be sure to note information on the Arizona Age-Friendly Network endorsed by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging.)

Webinar: Recognizing & Remediating Financial Abuse in Medicaid Denials

The National Consumer Law Center, in partnership with Pro Seniors and Justice in Aging, is hosting a webinar on recognizing and remediating elder financial abuse in Medicaid denials. Speakers Jennifer Goldberg, Directing Attorney, Justice in Aging; and Amy Kurlansky, Attorney at Law, Pro Seniors Inc., will cover the topics of power of attorney abuse, breach of fiduciary duties, and Medicaid hardship waiver applications. This webinar is sponsored in part by a grant from the Administration for Community Living (ACL) and is part of the National Legal Resource Center's National Elder Rights Training Project/Elder Abuse Prevention webinar series. The webinar will take place on **Tuesday, February 16, 2016, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.**

[Click here](#) to view details and register.

From the **National Eye Institute/NEI**

Low Vision Awareness Month 2016: <https://nei.nih.gov/nehep/lvam>

From the **National Alzheimer's Project Act** - "Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Innovative Dementia Models of Care: Patient-Centered Alternatives to Institutional

Extended Care.” http://www.va.gov/GERIATRICS/docs/VHA_Innovative_Dementia_Models_of_Care_Sept_2015.pdf.

The report describes a number of innovative programs developed and implemented at U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Centers, along with some initial results and lessons learned from the projects.

National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease updated information can be found at: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>.

From the **ARCH (Access to Respite Care and Help) National Respite Network and Resource Center**

Federal Funding and Support Opportunities for Respite: Building Blocks for Lifespan Respite System November 2015 linked [HERE](#)

Arizona Health-e Connection (AzHeC) and Health Information Network of Arizona (HINAz) have merged. More news [HERE](#)

AzHeC website: <http://www.azhec.org/>

INFORMATION& RESOURCES:

In case you missed it last week...

2016 Annual Conference on Successful Aging
March 1, 2016, University of Arizona
More information: <http://psychology.arizona.edu/acosa>

Chandler Senior Expo
Wednesday, March 9, 2016 from 9 a.m. to noon
More information [HERE](#)

Writing your Ethical Will
Tuesday, March 22, 2016 from 9 am to Noon, TMC Senior Services/El Dorado Medical Center, 1400 N. Wilmot Rd, Tucson AZ
More information: <https://jfcstucson.org/ethical-will/>

Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest education conferences:

http://www.alz.org/dsw/in_my_community_events.asp

Arizona 29th Annual Transit Conference presented by AzTA & ADOT
April 10 – 12, 2016, High Country Conference Center in Flagstaff, Arizona
More information: <http://www.azta.org/>

If you're interested

Past issues of the *Legislative Updates* are linked on the Council website at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging summary of input received during the 2015 Senior Action Day cycle is posted [HERE](#).

You can help circulate resource information. If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description and a link or pdf document to: gaca@az.gov. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including fundraising or marketing materials.

Enjoy your weekend!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging



If you wish to be REMOVED from or know someone who would like to be ADDED to the Update, please send an email to: gaca@az.gov and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

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